REMARKS

This application is a continuation of PCT International Application No. PCT/US98/04915, filed 12 March 1998, designating the United States of America and claiming priority of U.S. Serial No. 08/815,225, filed March 12, 1997. Accordingly, the parent application, PCT International Application No. PCT/US98/04915, is pending today in the United States of America pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §363, and the subject continuation application is co-pending therewith in fulfillment of the provisions of 35 U.S.C. §120.

By this Preliminary Amendment, applicants have hereinabove amended the specification on page 1 to insert the continuation data. Accordingly, upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1-25 are pending in this application.

If a telephone interview would be of assistance in advancing prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone at the number provided below.

No fee other than the filing fee of $581.00 is deemed necessary in connection with this Preliminary Amendment. However, if any other fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,

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INTRACELLULAR AMYLOID-BETA BINDING (ERAB) POLYPEPTIDE

This application is a continuation in part of U.S. Application Serial No. 08/815,225, filed March 12, 1997, the contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference into the present application.

The invention disclosed herein was made with Government support under NIH (Aging Institute) Grant No. AG 006902, from the Department of Health and Human Services. Accordingly, the U.S. Government has certain rights in this invention.

Throughout this application, various references are referred to by numbers within parentheses. Disclosures of these publications in their entireties are hereby incorporated by reference into this application to more fully describe the state of the art to which this invention pertains. Full bibliographic citation for these references may be found at the end of this application, preceding the claims, in numerical order corresponding to the numbers within parentheses.

Background of the Invention

Processing of the beta-amyloid precursor protein (APP) leads to a range of proteolyzed forms (1-6), some of which assemble into beta-amyloid fibrils and are cytotoxic. ß-amyloid moieties, such as amyloid-beta peptide (Aβ), are closely associated with neuronal dysfunction and death in Alzheimer's disease (AD). Increased expression of amyloid-beta peptide is linked to mutations in APP (6-10) and in presenilins (11-13), both of which occur in familial AD. The mechanisms underlying the cellular stress phenotype brought about in cells by amyloid-beta peptide-derived peptides are likely related to the neurotoxicity leading to dementia. Most attention has been focussed on mechanisms by which extracellular amyloid-beta peptide exerts its effects